

**CALIFORNIA MEDICAL ASSISTANCE COMMISSION**

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**CALIFORNIA MEDICAL ASSISTANCE COMMISSION**

**State Capitol, Room 113  
Sacramento, CA**

**Minutes of Meeting  
May 11, 2006**

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT**

Cathie Bennett Warner, Chair  
Michele Burton, M.P.H.  
Diane Griffiths  
Teresa P. Hughes  
Vicki Marti - *closed session only*  
Nancy E. McFadden

**CMAC STAFF PRESENT**

Keith Berger, Executive Director  
Enid Barnes  
Paul Cerles  
Holland Golec  
Katie Knudson  
Ina Pewitt  
Steve Soto  
Michael Tagupa  
Mervin Tamai  
Karen Thalhammer

**EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT**

Toby Douglas, Department of Health Services  
Nathan Stanley, Department of Finance

**I. Call to Order**

The May 11, 2006 open session meeting of the California Medical Assistance Commission (CMAC) was called to order by Chair Cathie Bennett Warner. A quorum was present.

**II. Approval of Minutes**

The April 27, 2006 meeting minutes were approved as prepared by CMAC staff.

### **III. Executive Director's Report**

Keith Berger, Executive Director, began his report with the announcement that Commissioner Cathie Bennett Warner has been officially designated by the Governor as the Chair of CMAC. Mr. Berger thanked the Commissioner for her hard work as Chair on an interim basis, and indicated the Commission was looking forward to her continued leadership during the upcoming years.

The Executive Director continued his report by informing the Commissioners that they would have a full agenda for their closed session including seven amendments and new contracts to be reviewed and acted upon, along with many updates and several important discussions regarding current negotiations and negotiation strategies, including those related to the Distressed Hospital Fund.

Mr. Berger said he believed that Governor Schwarzenegger's May Revision of the budget would be presented the day following this meeting. Mr. Berger then asked Mr. Stanley of the Department of Finance to update the Commission on key changes in the budget regarding the Medi-Cal program during the next Commission meeting on May 25.

The Executive Director concluded by reporting to the Commissioners that CMAC staff is continuing to work with the California Department of Health Services (CDHS), hospital associations and legislative staff on AB 3070, technical cleanup legislation for last year's SB 1100, which authorized and implemented the new hospital financing waiver.

### **IV. Department of Health Services (CDHS) Report**

Toby Douglas, Assistant Deputy Director, Medical Care Services, CDHS, announced that his report would be brief, and began by informing the Commissioners that the second State Plan Amendment (SPA) to the hospital financing waiver was approved Friday, May 5, by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). He said that this SPA is related to the Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) program and that CDHS is working with the public hospitals and the DSH Task Force with every intent possible to allocate DSH payments by the end of the fiscal year.

Mr. Douglas ended his report by updating the Commissioners on the third SPA, which he understood to be the most complicated amendment. He indicated this amendment is related to physicians, interns and other residents and that CDHS has already received significant comments and questions from CMS in relation to this amendment, and CDHS will be working closely with the DSH Task Force and CMS on responses.

**V. New Business/Public Comments/Adjournment**

There being no further new business and no comments from the public, Commissioner Bennett Warner recessed the open session. Commissioner Bennett Warner opened the closed session, and after closed session items were addressed, adjourned the closed session, at which time the Commission reconvened in open session. Commissioner Bennett Warner announced that the Commission had taken action on hospital and managed care contracts and amendments in closed session. The open session was then adjourned.